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National News

Falls Church Post Office Moving

Local News

Move Date Set for June 20

Electronic News Kits

June 08, 2009

Testimony & Speeches

Release No. 09-015

Broadcast Downloads

Merrifield VA - On June 20, 2009, the Falls Church Post Office retail operation and post office box services will be relocating from 301 Broad Street to 800 West Broad Street.

Audio Downloads

The move is necessary to make way for the new Falls Church City Center currently under

Events Calendar

construction. The new City Center will be built on the city-owned public parking lot currently used by Broad Street Postal Customers. All post office box customers have been notified of the move and will receive mail boxes at the new retail unit. The facility at 301 Broad Street will continue to house carrier delivery operations.

Photo Gallery Service Alerts

> Commercial mailings will continue to be accepted at the Bulk Mail Entry Unit (BMEU) located at 301 Broad Street.

"The new Post Office facility will improve the customers' experience." said Postmaster Donna Bradley. The new lobby will house 1500 post office boxes and an Automated Postal Center giving customers 24-hour access to most Postal services. Customers will pick up "left notice" accountable mail, parcels and hold mail from the new 800 Broad Street location. Regular lobby hours will remain 09:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday through Friday and 09:00 AM-12:00 PM Saturdays. The lobby is accessible directly from the parking garage on Oak street or the main entrance on West Broad Street.

Customers are asked to contact the Falls Church Post Office at (703) 532-8823 for more information.

Please Note: For broadcast quality video and audio, photo stills and other media resources, visit the USPS Newsroom at www.usps.com/communications/newsroom/welcome.htm

An independent federal agency, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that reaches every address in the nation, 149 million residences, businesses and Post Office Boxes, six days a week. It has 34,000 retail locations and relies on the sale of postage, products and services, not tax dollars, to pay for operating expenses. Named the Most Trusted Government Agency five consecutive years by the Ponemon Institute, the Postal Service has annual revenue of \$75 billion and delivers nearly half the world's mail.

POSTAL NEWS

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Falls Church Post Office Prepares Move Up Broad Street



By Dean Edwards

Thursday, April 30 2009 11:40:51 AM

Making way for Falls Church's new City Center project, whenever that may come, most of the functions at Falls Church's historic 301 W. Broad St. post office site will soon be relocated five blocks west to the new Art Noveau-inspired "flower" building at 800 West Broad.

The \$315-million City Center Projectm approved by the Falls Church City Council last year, includes the public parking lot component of the current post office, which is property owned by the City. That property is included in the footprint of the new City Center, requiring the customer service aspects of the post office to relocate.

The move, originally scheduled for next week, has been delayed to allow the postal service sufficient time to notify current mailbox customers about the changes. All mailboxes will be relocated to the new facility. The post office said it will give customers a 30-day notice before transferring boxes to the "flower" building.

Primary services such as retail sales and passport photos will also be transferred to the new building.

The old facility will retain carrier delivery operations, holding parcels too large for the new center, as well as mail for customers on vacation. In addition, accountable mail - insured or registered mail - will be held at the post office at 301 West Broad. There is no change to the parking lot adjacent to the office.

Both centers will maintain the same hours, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday, and 9 a.m. - noon on Saturday.

Progress on the new facility is "looking very nice," Donna Bradley, postmaster of the Falls Church Post Office, told the *News-Press*.

Postal workers recently toured the new space and were excited to work in the state-of-the-art building, said Bradley.

"Pretty much everything is laid out," she said. "We're waiting to take possession of the building, which will likely be by sometime in June."

The new office boasts larger lobbies to accommodate customer traffic, with more mailboxes, a total of 1,500, for customers as well. The mailbox lobby will be open 24 hours, seven days a week for their owners. Customers will also have a choice of four different sizes of mailbox.

An automated postal center (APC) at the new office will provide customers with basic and expedient service for letters and small packages.

Customers will also be able to pick up parcels at new "parcel lockers" beyond regular office hours, said Bradley, with the use of an innovative "parcel key" that will be left in their P.O. boxes.

"Patrons use their P.O. box key and the special key to access the parcel locker, where they leave the parcel key after retrieving their package," Bradley explained.

Parking will be plentiful, with a two-level garage off Oak Street that provides direct access to the post office from the lower level. The new office is also accessible from Broad Street.

At the moment, Bradley said, the post office is preoccupied with notifying customers of the P.O. box switchover.

"Some numbers may be the same for customers, and some may have changed," she said, adding that some boxes may be larger than their old sizes at 301 West Broad. "If a box changed from a size one, which is larger, to a size two, we will give it to them for now, but allow them to choose at the end of their mailbox's lease."

Bradley reassured customers that the post office is "trying its best to streamline the transition."

"If we can delete a number to keep mailbox numbers the same, we will do it," she said.

Customers will be notified of the changes with a letter in their mailboxes.

Bradley encouraged customers with questions or concerns about the ongoing transition process to contact the post office directly at 703-532-8823 and ask for the P.O. box clerk.

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POSTAL NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Sept. 2, 2009

Contact: Greg Frey 202-268-2168 greg.a.frey@usps.gov usps.com/news Release No. 09-074

Fewer Retail Offices Remain Under Review for Consolidation

USPS Moves to Remove Cost and Maintain Customer Access

WASHINGTON — The Postal Service announced today that 413 retail stations and branches remain under consideration for possible consolidation. Today's announcement updates a study begun earlier this summer that examined a wide range of stations and branches in urban and suburban areas across the country, focusing on offices in close proximity to determine where consolidations might be feasible, while maintaining customer access to postal services.

With nearly 37,000 Post Offices, stations, branches, contract and community post offices, the U.S. Postal Service has the largest retail network in the United States. In addition, about 56,000 other locations such as supermarkets, drug stores, and other retailers sell postage and selected postal services. Nearly 18,000 automated teller machines (ATMs) also dispense sheets of stamps. And, postage can be purchased and printed on personal computers at *usps.com*.

The only provider of mail service to every home and business address in the country, the Postal Service is committed to providing reliable, secure, affordable postal services with convenient access. Unlike most federal agencies, America's national mail system receives no tax subsidy for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

The current deep national recession has exacerbated erosion in First-Class Mail volumes due to a change in consumer preferences to electronic systems for instant messaging, invoicing and bill payment. Mail volume in 2009 is projected to be as much as 20 billion fewer pieces than in 2008. Still, mail volume in 2009 will be in the neighborhood of 170 billion pieces of mail.

To offset the current extremely difficult financial position, the Postal Service has successfully removed more than \$6 billion in cost in 2009, including:

- Cutting more than 100 million work hours, the equivalent of 57,000 positions;
- Closing six district administrative offices;
- Adjusting carrier routes to reflect diminished volume and eliminating nearly 12,000 carrier routes;
- Instituting a nationwide hiring freeze;
- Reducing authorized staffing levels at national and regional offices by 15 percent;
- Selling unused and under-utilized postal facilities;
- Adjusting Post Office hours to better reflect customer use;
- Consolidating mail processing operations;
- Halting construction of new postal facilities; and
- Freezing salaries of all Postal Service officers and executives.

Additional efficiency initiatives are continuing. Reducing over-capacity in retail and delivery operations is a good business move. Every effort will be made to maintain and improve customer access to postal services.

Today's announcement is part of the Station and Branch Optimization and Consolidation initiative that is currently being reviewed by the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC). As part of this proceeding, the Postal Service is required to file with the PRC the names of facilities under review.

The filing does not represent a final decision on consolidation. No final actions will be taken regarding consolidation as a result of this initiative until after Oct. 2, 2009.

Click here for the list of stations and branches currently being reviewed.

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